

2

SCENARIOS

State and County Fairs

AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS OBTAINING A PIN

BACKGROUND

Year after year, many of your clients showcase their animals at State and county fairs. These fairs bring together a variety of animals, including cattle, pigs, and horses, from numerous locations. These animals are at increased risk for disease exposure.



STATE AND COUNTY FAIRS

SETTING THE SCENE:

You're visiting Dale Thompson's swine operation today as he prepares for this year's county fair. He will be bringing several pigs to the fair, as he has done for years. You have the opportunity to inform Dale about the increased disease risks during the fair and how he can protect his animals.

CONVERSATION STARTER:

You begin the conversation by asking, "I bet you and your family are excited about taking your hogs to the county fair."

"We do look forward to it. That reminds me, I'm going to need health papers again this year," responds Dale.

"No problem. As we've discussed before, you know it's a risk. A high number of animals coming together in one central location like that can result in disease transmission," you say.

"Yeah, I know, but it's kind of a hobby for us. I better check to be sure nothing is new in the entry book regarding health requirements and testing. Anything new on the biosecurity front?" Dale asks.





KEY POINTS:

- When animals are brought together from numerous locations, such as at a State or county fair, there is an increased risk of disease exposure or spread.
- Reviewing biosecurity practices on the farm during participation in high disease risk environments such as livestock exhibitions is important to herd health.
- In addition to testing and vaccinating your animals and receiving a certificate of veterinary inspection, you can protect your animals by registering your premises.
- When you register your premises, you will receive a premises identification number, also known as a PIN, that ensures:
 - Your animals will be associated with that PIN.
 - You will get information quickly if there is a disease outbreak.
- In an increasing number of livestock exhibition events, having a PIN may be a requirement for sale of market animals.
- Obtaining a PIN is simple and free.
- The basic information you are asked to provide includes:
 - Name of entity
 - Contact person for premises
 - Street address, city, State, and Zip or postal code of the premises
 - Contact phone number
 - Operation type
 - Date activated
 - Alternative phone numbers
 - Species kept at the premises.

NEXT STEPS:

- Research the process for obtaining a premises identification number (PIN) in your State and be ready to share this information with clients.
 - Go to www.usda.gov/nais/getPIN and find the contact for your State.
 - Determine if a PIN is required for participation at the specific livestock exhibition event.
 - Find out whether your State's department of agriculture Web site allows clients to sign up online.
 - Contact the State and find out whether you can hand out registration forms in the field.